6: Anonymous T-5 (1770)1908
OY2 Easter Islanders OY2

THE VOYAGE

OF

CAPTAIN DON FELIPE GONZALEZ

IN THE SHIP OF THE LINE SAN LORENZO,
WITH THE FRIGATE SANTA ROSALIA IN COMPANY,

TO

EASTER ISLAND

IN 1770—1:

PRECEDED BY AN EXTRACT FROM
MYNHEER JACOB ROGGEVEEN'S OFFICIAL LOG
OF HIS DISCOVERY OF AND VISIT TO
EASTER ISLAND,
IN 1722.

TRANSCRIBED, TRANSLATED, AND EDITED
BY
BOLTON GLANVILL CORNEY,
Companion of the Imperial Service Order.

CAMBRIDGE:
PRINTED FOR THE HAKLUYT SOCIETY.
MDCCCCVIII.

[TITLE PAGE]

6: Anonymous T-5 (1770)1908
OY2 Easter Islanders OY2

JOURNAL

OF THE

PRINCIPAL OCCURRENCES DURING THE VOYAGE

OF

THE FRIGATE *SANTA ROSALIA*

FROM

EL CALLAO DE LIMA TO THE ISLAND OF DAVID AND THENCE TO SAN CARLOS DE CHILOE,

in the year
1770.

By an officer[1] of the said Frigate.

---

[1] Probably Don Francisco Antonio de Agüera y Infanson, Chief Pilot.

[p. 83]
[p. 84 blank]

6: Anonymous T-5 (1770)1908
OY2 Easter Islanders OY2

JOURNAL

of the principal occurrences during the voyage of the Frigate *Santa Rosalia*, under the command of Captain Don Antonio Domonte, which sailed from the Port of the Callao on the 10th of October, 1770, in company with the ship of the line *San Lorenzo*, Commodore don Felipe Gonzalez; to find and examine the Island of David, and others in the South Seas, her chief pilot being don Francisco Antonio de Agüera Infanzon[1].

On Wednesday, the 10th of OCTOBER, 1770, at half-past four o'clock in the afternoon, we put to sea with a fresh breeze from S.S.E., making all sail in order to join company with the Commodore, which we succeeded in doing at sun-down: the north-western headland of the island of San Lorenzo of the Callao bearing then S., 5° S.E., distant ¾ of a league, and at eight o'clock from 2½ to 3 leagues off on the same bearing.

From this point I took my departure, fixing as my base the latitude of 12° 5′, and longitude 298° 45′, meridian of Teneriſe. We set our course to the S.W. with the wind fresh from S.S.E.

Thursday, 11th. I could get no observation at noon: by my reckoning I was in lat. 12° 29′, and long. 297° 45′. Course 68°, 3rd quadrant. Distance 63½ miles. The winds were fresh, from the 2nd quadrant.

[1] Two officially attested copies of the original of this Journal exist in the library of the *Real Academia de la Historia* at Madrid, both made by Royal Command in 1778. The original itself was deposited in the Archives of the *Despacho Universal de Indias*—the Colonial Office of Spain.

There is also a copy, on paper and in handwriting of the same period, in the British Museum [Eg. 902: n° 3, f. 53]. *Vide* also p. lxiii.

[p. 85]

6: Anonymous T-5 (1770)1908
OY2 Easter Islanders OY2

Friday, 12th. At noon I observed the sun in lat. 13° 1′. Course 60° 15′, 3rd quadrant. Distance 65 miles. Longitude reached 296° 46′: the same wind continued.

Saturday, 13th. Latitude by observation 13° 37′, long. 295° 25′. Course 65° 30′, 3rd quadrant. Distance 87 miles.

Sunday, 14th. Lat. by observation 14° 40′, long. 293° 47′. Course 56° 30′, 3rd quadrant. Distance 115 miles. Wind 2nd quadrant.

Monday, 15th. Lat. by reckoning 16° 6′, long. 292° 20′. Course 45° 15′, 3rd quadrant. Distance 118 miles. Wind 2nd quadrant, fresh.

Tuesday, 16th. Lat. by observation 17° 27′, long. 231° 32′. Course 32°, 3rd quadrant. Distance 96 miles: wind .....*idem.*

Wednesday, 17th. Lat. by observation 18° 37′, long. 290° 46′. Course 33° 30′, 3rd quadrant. Distance 80½ miles: wind.....*idem.*

Thursday, 18th. Lat. by observation 19° 43′, long. 290°. Course 33° 30′, 3rd quadrant. Distance 79½ miles: wind *idem*, fine.

Friday, 19th. Lat. by observation 20° 58′, long. 289° 1′. Course 36° 30′, 3rd quadrant. Distance 93 miles: wind E.S.E., fine. On this day, and on the previous one, the marines and seamen of both ships were put through the musketry firing exercise in compliance with the Commodore's order to that effect.

Saturday, 20th. Lat. by observation 21° 45′, long. 287° 32′. Course 59° 30′, 3rd quadrant. Distance 97 miles: wind *idem.*

Sunday, 21st. Lat. by observation 22° 43′, long. 286° 23′. Course 49° 30′, 3rd quadrant. Distance 84½ miles: wind *idem.*

Monday, 22nd. Lat. by reckoning 23° 40′, long. 285° 45′. Course 32° 15′, 3rd quadrant. Distance 68 miles: wind *idem*, fine.

6: Anonymous T-5 (1770)1908
OY2 Easter Islanders OY2

Tuesday, 23rd. Lat. by observation 25° 14′, long. 285° 11′. Course 17° 3′, 3rd quadrant. Distance 101 miles: wind *idem*, with squalls.

Wednesday, 24th. Lat. by observation 26° 50′, long. 284° 52′. Course 11° 15′, 3rd quadrant. Distance 95½ miles: wind *idem*. According to this position I am 10 miles short of the parallel of the Island of David, which should bear W. 3° S.W., distant 145 leagues.

Thursday, 25th. Lat. by observation 27°, long. 283° 23′. Course 85° 30′, 3rd quadrant. Distance 79 miles: wind N. and not fine.

Friday, 26th. Lat. by reckoning 27°, long. 282° 20′. Course W. Distance 56 miles: wind variable in the 3rd and 4th.

Saturday, 27th. Lat. by observation 27° 8′, long. 282° 14′. Course 82° 30′, 3rd quadrant. Distance 62 miles: wind from the 3rd quadrant.

Sunday, 28th. Lat. by observation 26½°, long. 281° 32′. Course 32° 45′, 4th quadrant. Distance 70 miles: wind variable.

Monday, 29th. Lat. by reckoning 27° 20′, long. 281° 34′. Course 2°, 2nd quadrant. Distance 73 miles: wind 3rd quadrant.

Tuesday, 30th. Lat. by observation 27° 42′, long. 281° 54′. Course 27° 30′, 2nd quadrant. Distance 98 miles: wind *idem*.

Wednesday, 31st. Lat. by observation 27° 18′, long. 281° 27′. Course 46°, 4th quadrant. Distance 35 miles: wind *idem*.

NOVEMBER. Thursday, 1st. Lat. by observation 27° 1′, long. 280° 41′. Course 67° 30′, 4th quadrant. Distance 44 miles, wind S.

Friday, 2nd. Lat. by observation 27° 00′, long. 280° 4′. Course W. Distance 33½ miles: wind 2nd quadrant, and calm.

6: Anonymous T-5 (1770)1908
OY2 Easter Islanders OY2

Saturday, 3rd. Lat. by observation 27° 06′, long. 279° 36′. Course 77° 15′, 3rd quadrant. Distance 26 miles: wind 2nd quadrant and 1st.

Sunday, 4th. Lat. by observation 27° 01′, long. 279° 11′. Course 72°, 4th quadrant. Distance 23 miles; wind variable.

Monday, 5th. Lat. by reckoning 26° 59′, long. 278° 52′. Course 84°, 4th quadrant. Distance 18 miles: wind *idem*.

Tuesday, 6th. Lat. by observation 26° 56′, long. 277° 31′. Course 86° 30′, 4th quadrant. Distance 72 miles: wind 2nd quadrant, fine: the Island of David bore W., distant 22 leagues, but no indication of land has been seen.

Wednesday, 7th. Lat. by observation 27° 2′, long. 275° 53′. Course 87° 15′, 3rd quadrant. Distance 87 miles: wind from the 3rd quadrant, fine. According to the position of this day I found myself somewhat to the westward of the meridian of the supposed Island of David, whose western cape is situated (according to my chart) in long. 276° 40′ from Tenerife; and, as no signs of land were met with, I inferred that the said island must lie farther to the west. From this day forwards we lay to during the nights, making all sail by day.

Thursday, 8th. Latitude by observation 27° 13′, long. 274° 54′. Course 81° 30′, 3rd quadrant. Distance 51 miles: wind E., fine. As I considered I was much out in my longitude I began, from to-day, to work out the equation by the sun, and to correct the tables of its declination, in order to find the daily latitude with greater accuracy, so important a circumstance for our commission.

Friday, 9th. Latitude by observation 27° 19′, long. 270° 54′. Course 82° 30′, 4th quadrant. Distance 69 miles: wind 2nd and 4th quadrant. In the afternoon of this day the Commodore made the signal of land in the 3rd quad-

6: Anonymous T-5 (1770)1908
OY2 Easter Islanders OY2

rant; but later on we saw it to be cloud-banks, which dispersed and undeceived us. They certainly bore much similitude to it.

Monday, 12th. Latitude by observation 26° 58′, long. 269° 51′. Course 71°, quadrant[1]. Distance 59 miles: wind 2nd quadrant. Since yesterday morning abundance of birds (of a kind unfamiliar to our people) were seen, in the form of gulls, and of a dark colour, the bill and the wings being very pointed, the latter projecting with marked curvature towards the tail, which is open after the fashion of the tern. They fly leisurely, and always in flocks of from four to six, uttering a cry similar to mangrove parrokeets. And these are they which came nearest to the frigate, calling, in the course of their flight, by night as by day. These birds are the true indication of the island (as we experienced), for we never saw any of their species before nor afterwards; nor did they even approach the land nearer than four leagues. We called them *Chillones*[2], on account of the clamour they made.

Tuesday, 13th. Latitude by observation 26° 59′, long. 269° 11′. Course 89°, 4th quadrant. Distance 36 miles: wind 2nd quadrant. The *Chillone* birds continued.

Wednesday, 14th. Lat. by observation 27° 12′, long. 268° 30′. Course 69°, 3rd quadrant. Distance 30 minutes: wind the same. The *Chillones* follow in still greater numbers. On the morning of this day the Commodore called the captain, officers, and pilot of this frigate on board of his ship, with whom and his own he held a council of war, in which it was unanimously decided to continue our course to the W. notwithstanding that we were 160 leagues beyond the position quoted for the Island of David. The *Chillones* follow.

---

[1] Figure wanting in MS.

[2] *Anglice*, 'screamers,' or 'bawlers.'

6: Anonymous T-5 (1770)1908
OY2 Easter Islanders OY2

133 Thursday, 15th. At five o'clock in the morning we made sail, getting all the canvas on her, *en vuelta de uno*, the horizon being cloudy; but at half-past seven it cleared up, and we sighted land ahead. Being fully confident that there was more than lay in the N.W. we continued in search of it. Notwithstanding we were as much as 8 to 10 leagues distant we were able to make out that it was not mountainous, but of moderate height, and not timbered. The extent of horizon it occupied was 45°, that is, from N.N.W. to W.N.W., between which points there was visible an indentation of the coast with a distinctive landmark in the centre, consisting of two pap-like eminences [*tetas*] or peaks rising above the rest of the outline. At ten o'clock, being then from 5 to 6 leagues from land, the most northern part of the island bore N.N.W. 5° N.W. At noon I got an observation of the sun in 27° 13′ of latitude, being by my calculation in long. 267° 2′. At that hour the southern point of the island stood out clearly, and was bearing W.N.W. 5° W., and the northern one N. 5° N.W. Our position was then about 3 leagues off the shore, whose soil we noticed to be covered for the most part with green scrub, one species of coarse bush standing prominently above the rest so as to give an appearance like pyramids on the beach, as if symmetrically set up. These were also dotted in a scattered fashion about the country inland, which appeared to us to be fertile, as we observed no broken ground, nor precipices, nor stony places throughout it, but various valleys, and plains forming the mountain plateaux as it were, and quite covered with greenery as far down as the sea-beach, showing the fertility of the 000 country. As soon as we came close up with the southern point already mentioned the Commodore began to find the wind baffling, working along shore towards the N. at a distance of a league from the land, in which we made out the bay already mentioned, from which a great smoke was

6: Anonymous T-5 (1770)1908
OY2 Easter Islanders OY2

made to us at three distinct parts of it: from this we concluded it to be inhabited, but without having been able to distinguish any person, nor make out any village, house, shanty, or hut, either on the beach or anywhere close by. At half-past ten in the afternoon, having come up with the North point and being about two miles distant from the land, we observed a troop of people composed of eighteen persons who were walking briskly along the summit of a high ridge, where they all collected together and sat down, remaining in this wise while we passed in view about a gunshot off. We noticed some of them clothed in garments like a *poncho* or cloak, coloured: at the first sight we thought they were European soldiers, but having approached within a mile of them we became satisfied that they were natives, all of them unarmed, and some nude, wearing plumes on their heads.

Being at this position the eastern point of the island bore West, true bearing; and on working out the distance run since the observation at noon I found myself in lat. 27° 2′, and that should be the true position of the east point of David's Island, as far as the latitude is concerned[1]; and in respect of longitude, inasmuch as I found myself at noon to-day to be in 267° 2′ from Tenerife, and as we had been sailing with very slight deviation on the same meridian there remained but one mile difference, allowing for our being that much off the land. I therefore say that according to my calculations as worked out during the passage, the most eastern point of David's Island is placed in 27° 2′ of latitude S. and in 267° 1′ longitude from Tenerife, thus bearing with the Isle of San Lorenzo off the Callao W.S.W. 6° S. and E.N.E. 6° N.E., distant 625 leagues of 20 to the degree; and being 38° West from the meridian of Copiapo, and consequently 680 leagues distant from the Chilian

[1] The actual position is 4½ miles more southerly and 22 miles more easterly, taking Cape O'Higgins as the point referred to.

6: Anonymous T-5 (1770)1908
OY2 Easter Islanders OY2

continent. The profile of the island facing eastward extends about 14 to 16 miles, and the southern and northern points lie E.N.E. and W.S.W.[1]

Having sailed past the northernmost point we came into view of another bay which indented to the W.N.W., which seemed more convenient than the first: we laid the yards aback and the Commodore lowered his boat, sending her in armed to the said bay and signalling us to do the same. At half-past four in the afternoon our boat went away with Don Juan Bentuza[2] Moreno, Captain of Batallones, and the midshipman Don Joseph Morales, escorted by twelve soldiers, one serjeant, and two corporals equipped with ammunition. The coastal pilot of the frigate and a pilot's mate also embarked, with the instruments of their craft and headed for the bay, where the boat from the Commodore was already taking soundings. We remained under reduced canvas, making short boards off and on, awaiting the return of the exploring party, who, at sunset withdrew, we on board reaching in beyond the centre of the bay to meet them. We saw numbers of natives on the beach. The anchorage they found is wholly unprotected, and the bottom is of bad quality. We passed the night under easy sail, and at times hove to, keeping abreast of the bay.

Friday, 16th. At sunrise I observed the variation of the needle, and noted 2° 30′ to the N.E. At 5 the Commodore lowered his boat and despatched her ashore as soon as he arrived, in quest of anchorage, and we did the same under short canvas; and, lowering all our boats into the water, we passed within about a mile of the eastern

[1] These bearings should probably be reversed, or the words 'Southern' and 'Northern' interchanged. The real direction is S.W. by W. and N.E. by E. true bearing, presuming that the N.E. and not the N.W. point is meant; but the latter is in fact the northernmost headland.

[2] 'Juan Bentuza' is evidently a copyist's error for Buenaventura.

6: Anonymous T-5 (1770)1908
OY2 Easter Islanders OY2

point of the bay and saw a considerable number of natives posted on the heights, who collected nearer to the middle of the bay as we sailed towards it, so that by the time we let go there must have been more than 800 people, divided in batches, all wearing cloaks of a yellow colour or white. There was not the least appearance of hostility, nor of the implements of war about them; I only saw many demonstrations of rejoicing and much yelling.

At 8 o'clock in the morning we came to an anchor in this bay in 18 fathoms, gravel, coral, small shells, and fine sand. We moored East and West with one anchor to the E. and a kedge to the W. We saw some natives swim off and pass on board of the Commodore; the rest remained on the sea beach, in loose cloaks, shouting with delight and giving other signs, all intended to make us aware of their docility and of their desire to come on board or to see us on shore. At midday the two launches of both ships started (by the Commodore's orders), commissioned to examine and explore the whole circuit of the island, which up to this time we had understood to be a short one. To this end combatant officers, pilots, marines, and the necessary seamen were embarked, with six days' provisions, while the Commodore was making arrangements as to the mode of communicating with the natives, and for giving effect to the orders he bore. We have ascertained that what we took for shrubs of a pyramidal form are in reality statues or images of the idols which the natives worship; they are of stone, and of such a height and corpulence that they look like great thick columns; and as I afterwards ascertained in examining them and taking their dimensions the entire body is of a single block, and the crown or head-dress of another: there is a small concavity on the upper surface of the latter in which they place the bones of their dead, from which it may be inferred that they serve at once for idols and funeral pyres. But it

6: Anonymous T-5 (1770)1908
OY2 Easter Islanders OY2

778
532

is difficult to understand how they can have set up such superb statues, and maintained them properly balanced on so many small stones as are placed in the base or plinth which sustains their great weight. The material of the statue is very hard stone, and therefore weighty; having tried it myself with a hoe it struck fire: a proof of its density. The crown is of a different stone which is plentiful in the island; but I have not seen any like that of the figure: its workmanship is very crude. The only feature in the configuration of the face is a rough excavation for the eyes: the nostrils are fairly imitated, and the mouth extends from ear to ear, as shown by a slight groove or excavation in the stone. The neck bears some similitude; arms and legs are wanting, and it proceeds from the neck downwards in the form of a rudely fashioned trunk. The diameter of the crown is much greater than that of the head on which it rests, and its lower edge projects greatly beyond the forehead of the figure; a position which excites wonder that it does not fall. I was able to clear up this difficulty on making an examination of another smaller statue from whose head there projected a kind of tenon, constructed to fit into a sort of slot or mortice corresponding to it in the crown; so that by this device the latter is sustained notwithstanding its overlapping the forehead. That a people lacking machinery and materials for constructing any should be able to raise the crown or headpiece on to a statue of such height causes wonder, and I even think that the stone of which the statues are made is not a product of the island, in which iron, hemp, and stout timber are absolutely unknown. Much remains to be worked out on this subject.

On taking geometric measurements of the tallest statue occurring along the beach of this bay I found that it was 52 Castilian feet 6 inches in height, including the crown, which has 4 feet 8 inches of the same measure, but it must

6: Anonymous T-5 (1770)1908
OY2 Easter Islanders OY2

be mentioned that there are others of still greater height in the eastern part of the island. According to the observations of the exploring party there are others widely distributed about the country-side in the interior, which are about 2 or 3 *estados*[1]; and, besides these, innumerable others were met with consisting only of a pyramid or cairn of stones awkwardly piled together, on whose apex was set a round stone washed over with white earth, so as to produce a resemblance to a human skull, from which it may be seen that they have their tombs in these. The sculptured statues are called *Mody* by the natives, who appear to hold them in great veneration, and are displeased when we approach to examine them closely.

They have another effigy or idol clothed and portable which is about four yards [*varas*[2]] in length: it is properly speaking the figure of a Judas, stuffed with straw or dried grass. It has arms and legs, and the head has coarsely figured eyes, nostrils, and mouth: it is adorned with a black fringe of hair made of rushes, which hangs half-way down the back. On certain days they carry this idol to the place where they gather together, and judging by the demonstrations some of them made, we understood it to be the one dedicated to enjoyment, and they name it *Copeca*.

This afternoon the natives who were on board the Commodore returned ashore, and our boats followed afterwards with some of the officers and others. Some natives also came on board the frigate, and we made them presents of trifles in the way of clothing and trinkets. We found them to be a very poor and lowly people, whose possessions help to make them so importunate in begging that they become really too annoying. No ornaments of gold, silver,

[1] 1 *estadal* = four *varas*, or 11 ft. 1½ inches. These statues were therefore, roughly speaking, half the size of the one measured near the beach.

[2] 1 *vara* = nearly a yard.

6: Anonymous T-5 (1770)1908
OY2 Easter Islanders OY2

jewellery, or any other metal, nor any kind of clothes or hardware, were seen among them; from which it may be inferred that they have[1] at present no interchange of goods with any European, Asiatic, or American nation. Their physiognomy does not resemble that of the Indians of the Continent of Chile, Peru, or New Spain in anything, these islanders being in colour between white, swarthy, and reddish, not thick lipped nor flat nosed, the hair chestnut coloured and limp, some have it black, and others tending to red or a cinnamon tint. They are tall, well built and proportioned in all their limbs; and there are no halt, maimed, bent, crooked, luxated, deformed, or bow-legged among them, their appearance being thoroughly pleasing, and tallying with Europeans more than with Indians. I believe, from their docility and intelligence, that it would be easy to domesticate them and to convert them to any religion which might be put before them.

This day and the ensuing night the wind remained very light, from N.E. to N. The heat did not make itself felt much during the daytime, and at night there was little wind or dampness. There are some eddies[2] of current, which enter from the eastward and discharge themselves to the West.

I began to take soundings of the bay this afternoon, and the bottom we met with is not of the best for ensuring the safety of the ships, consisting merely of gravel, sand, shells, coral, and much rock occurring here and there all over the anchorage, especially from the 20 fathom line shorewards.

Saturday, 17th. The wind held light from N.E. to N. To-day great numbers of natives of both sexes came on

[1] There are some defects in the transcription of the original MS. here: but the sense is plain.

[2] The MS. has here '*revosas*,' perhaps a copyist's error for *refugos*.

6: Anonymous T-5 (1770)1908
OY2 Easter Islanders OY2

board of the two vessels; we found them very straightforward and agreeable, most of them brought plantains, roots, chickens, &c., and readily offered the wretched scraps of clothing and other goods they had about them, until reduced to a miserable loin-cloth of fibre or cotton or some such stuff, with a diadem or crown or plume of cock's feathers or dried sea-weed. The women use the same garments, and, by way of distinguishing their sex, cover the head with a curious construction of palm-leaf [*ojas*] or fine rushes. They are, like the men, importunate at begging; but they all of them yield with the same frankness whatever they possess, and the women go to the length of offering with inviting demonstrations all the homage that an impassioned man can desire. Nor do they appear to transgress, in this, in the opinion of their men; for the latter even tender them by way of paying us attention. As we had no opportunity of enquiring into the methods they observe in regard to marital affairs [*propagacion*] it can only be inferred that the women whom we saw are held in common among them, although we noticed that the older and more important men retain some preference in the matter, as these are always the ones who accompany and make offer of them, and to whom the women render obedience, and not to the younger men, with whom we have never seen them in company. So that one notices a more modest behaviour among the youths and young women than among the elders.

The girls are by temperament modest, since with all their nudity they always manage to cover the breasts &c. as much as possible. The women we saw were much fewer in number than the men; from which it may be supposed that they make use of them in common, or hold their alliances secret, and I think that the more likely because on the afternoon when we came ashore, when passing near to a small hut, we saw some eight women or so all youthful

6: Anonymous T-5 (1770)1908
OY2 Easter Islanders OY2

and not bad looking, accompanied by an old man who only allowed them to expose their heads to look at us. They are all, as a rule, of agreeable aspect and shade of colour, which they modify by means of a very fine pigment of vermilion or red lead, with which they daub their features, although they do not all make use of it. The principal men, or those in authority, paint the whole of their bodies with some herb, or liquor, having a bright red hue, drawing great numbers of lines, pyramids, cocks, and most hideous masks [*rostros feisimos*], but all disposed in such order and symmetry that it would require the most dexterous pencil to imitate them. In particular they figure on the back a maze of convolutions with so much skill that it excited our wonder, not a dot nor a line from right side to left side wanting in regularity. On the vacant parts of the abdomen they depict two fearsome monstrosities [*rostros horrorosos*] which they call *pare*, and I believe they look on them with veneration, but they do not like one to touch them with the hand.

The young people do not paint themselves in this fashion, only a few of them have a collar of the same colour traced round the neck, and depending from it the figure of a small animal resembling a toad, or frog, which they call *cogè*.

The principal men, as well as the women, are extremely addicted to beg, and take with gladness whatever comes to their hands, without making any return; they show no resentment if deprived of their spoils: they are quite content with old rags, ribbons, coloured paper, playing-cards, and other bagatelles. Everything of a bright red colour pleases them greatly, but they despise black; they are so fond of taking other people's property that what one man obtains another will take from him, and he yields it without feeling aggrieved: the most he will do is to resist a little, then he loosens his hold of it and they remain friends.

6: Anonymous T-5 (1770)1908
OY2 Easter Islanders OY2

It appears as if among themselves their goods are held in common, and I believe they conceal as much as they can get possession of below the ground, for we never saw afterwards any of the things we gave them. We treated them with every consideration, and gave them whatever they asked for. Many of them pronounce with clearness *Ave Maria: Viva Carlos Tercero, Rey de España.* The men are generally of large stature, very many exceeding 8½ spans [*palmos*] of Castile[1] [in height]; most of them attain 8 spans, and there were two whom out of curiosity we measured, one of 9 spans and 2 inches[2], and the other 9 and 3½ inches[3], all their limbs being of proportionate dimensions. The quality and *timbre* of their voice is adapted to pronounce any language with facility; theirs being very similar to Arabic; although for harshness and resonance it is on a par with that of the Lazarones of Naples.

We never saw their bravery put to the test, but I suspect they are faint-hearted; they possess no arms, and although in some we observed sundry wounds on the body, which we thought to have been inflicted by cutting instruments of iron or steel, we found that they proceeded from stones, which are their only [weapons of] defence and offence, and as most of these are sharp edged[4] they produce the injury referred to.

I made a bow and arrow, duly strung, by way of experiment, and on handing it to one of those with the scars he instantly stuck it on his head as an ornament, and then hung it round his neck with much joy, being totally ignorant of its use and effect.

---

[1] The Castilian *palmo* or span is equal to 8½ inches. 8½ *palmos* therefore express 6 feet, less an inch.

[2] 6 ft. 5 ins.

[3] 6 ft. 6½ ins.

[4] Obsidian.

6: Anonymous T-5 (1770)1908
OY2 Easter Islanders OY2

They did the same with a knife and with a cutlass, which they took hold of indifferently by the point or by the hilt.

They seem to me to have ministers or priests for their idols; because I observed that on the day which we erected the crosses, when our chaplains went accompanying the holy images, clothed in their cassocks and *pelliz*, chanting the litanies, numbers of natives stepped forward on to the path and offered their cloaks, while the women presented hens and pullets, and all cried *Maca Maca*, treating them with much veneration until they had passed beyond the rocks by which the track they were following was encumbered.

Sunday, 18th. The natives continued to gather on board in greater number than on the preceding days, so that on this day there have been more than 400 in the frigate. What with men and women they collected in such crowds that it became necessary to send away some in order to make room for others, as we could not contain them on board. To-day at noon I observed the latitude of this bay with the greatest care, which I found to be 27° 26′; and I began on this same day to make a sketch of it, with an outline and views and exact soundings, in order to construct as accurate a chart of it as possible, and one that might serve as a guide and record for the future; though it must be stated that, on account of certain impediments, it was not possible to fix a base-line on shore for trigonometric operations.

Monday, 19th. At 10 in the forenoon our launches came in sight from the eastern part of the island, and our long-boat was told off to give ours a tow, as she had the wind ahead. The Commodore did the same for his. Our launch arrived alongside at one o'clock in the afternoon, with all her people, after having sailed entirely round the island; and the following account was by this means obtained.

6: Anonymous T-5 (1770)1908
OY2 Easter Islanders OY2

The island extends to about 50 miles in circumference; [131] but no harbour capable of affording shelter to a single 133 vessel of moderate burthen was met with. The whole of the shore-line is beset with reefs, cliffs, and rough ground, without containing any spot fit to beach a boat at. On penetrating inland in a few places they met with many natives, with whom they held intercourse, and they observed in them the same manners, customs, and ceremonies as in those of this bay; experiencing among them the same disposition to theft. They saw no kind of wild nor 231 domestic animal, excepting hens and some rats. The 241 fields are uncultivated save some small plots of ground, in which they sow beds of *yuca*, yams, sweet potatoes, and several plantations of plantains and sugar-cane: but all very tasteless, as if from want of cultivation. They did 135 not find any metal, nor any ornaments of that kind in the natives' habitations. All this account tallies with the 137 observations we have gathered in this bay, on whose slopes, and on those throughout the island, not a single tree is to be found capable of furnishing a plank so much as six inches in width; but there are plenty of shrubs or brush-wood of a sort little more than an *estada*[1] in height, which offer little obstruction to one in passing as they are not dense and have no prickles. Its trees are very similar to mimosas and tamarinds. Of fruit-bearing trees I have seen only some very small figs, but so different from ours that they are recognisable as such only by the scent of the leaf, and the white juice which exudes from them. It is certain that they bear fruit, because the natives were eating some dry figs on board, which we gave them from those of Mendoza, and they called them *gecoy*. The island is 136 destitute of every kind of bird: not a single bird has been

[1] An *estadal* or *estada* is equivalent to four *varas* of about 33 inches each, *i.e.* 11 feet.

6: Anonymous T-5 (1770)1908
OY2 Easter Islanders OY2

136 seen in it. Even the marine species do not settle on its shores nor fly within sight of it: the same is the case with regard to beetles, insects, &c.

342 Most of the natives of the island dwell in underground caves, or in the hollow of some rock, the entrances to which are so narrow and inconvenient that I have seen some of them introduce themselves in the opposite manner to what is natural, beginning by projecting their feet and the head last. The more polished or powerful persons, whether in [534] virtue of their age or of authority, are held in esteem. These inhabit small huts covered with reeds [*totora*], and constructed in the form of a large tunnel, in whose bilge or bellying portion [*vientre ò bariga*] is the entrance, after the manner of a trap-door for cats' egress, so narrow that only one man can pass in or out at a time, and that with effort. Others (whom I believe to be their ministers) occupy dwellings close to the statues; these are built of earth below, but with an entrance way or porch of very roughly hewn and clumsily set up stones, after the fashion of a wall, with a certain number of steps for passing from one platform or surface of ground to another on different levels.
324 It is known that they work the stone, on which may be seen several different figures, squares, oblongs, arcs [*rumbos*], triangles, and trapezia, by means of another stone of harder substance than the mass, and the same method is followed, I believe, in fashioning the statues.

648 On the afternoon of this day during a rain squall with little wind from the S.W. our cable parted, having chafed completely through against a coral rock, fragments of which came up embedded among the strands of the two broken ends. We spent the evening in making ready for the succeeding day, on which we were to formally disembark and take possession of the island, and to erect upon it three crosses which had been got ready for the purpose on board the Commodore.

6: Anonymous T-5 (1770)1908
OY2 Easter Islanders OY2

Tuesday, 20th. The day dawned with the horizon overcast, the wind light from E.S.E. with occasional gusts; but the Commodore decided to carry into effect the projected expedition notwithstanding, and to this end 250 men, troops and seamen, were detached to go ashore, well armed and under the command of Don Alberto Olaondo, senior lieutenant and captain of marines, with other officers and subalterns, and instructions to pass inland towards the western side of the island in order to make a reconnaissance of the country-side thereabouts, and to draw the attention of the natives in that direction while the three aforementioned crosses were being set up on three hillocks which are at the eastern end. 648.

This precaution was not taken through any fear that the natives might offer opposition to the execution [of our project] but only in order to avoid the tumult with which they proceed about all their operations, as they would have been so much in our way as to considerably retard us. While the launches and boats conveyed the first section of people to the shore, the second batch was being got ready, consisting of a similar number, and commanded by Don Buenaventura Moreno, senior lieutenant and captain of marines, with the necessary officers, amongst whom I was included by the Commodore's order, for the purpose of establishing proper marks and bases for the construction of the most exact plan and truest coast-line of this bay, and for fixing the positions of the most noticeable heights of the island.

When the boats of the first party returned we set out in the same order, escorted by troops from this frigate, accompanying the three crosses with colours flying and drums beating. In this manner, and in excellent order, we arrived at a small bay which lies to the eastward, and had been selected for the disembarkation as possessing the only convenient expanse of beach in all the roadstead. We landed here without meeting with any obstacle, and

6: Anonymous T-5 (1770)1908
OY2 Easter Islanders OY2

648 were received by a considerable gathering of natives, who manifested much merriment, with a great deal of yelling. On the party forming up, together with those bearing arms, we set out on the march, accompanied by the natives, who lent a willing hand in carrying the crosses, singing and dancing in their fashion as they went. We made the whole circuit of the bay with some pains, for the ground was rough and rugged, although level, a great retinue of natives collecting round us all the while as far as the foot of the rise, where the most part of them quitted us on account of the troublesome and protracted nature of the ascent. At half-past one we arrived at the place at which the crosses were to be set up, and this was concluded with full rejoicings, after the benediction and adoration of the holy images, by the whole concourse of people, on seeing which the natives went through the same ceremony.

On the crosses being planted on their respective hill-tops the Spanish ensign was hoisted, and the troops being brought to 'Attention!' under arms, Dⁿ Joseph Bustillo, junior Captain, took possession of the island of San Carlos with the accustomed ceremonies in the name of the King of Spain, our lord and master Don Carlos the Third, this day, the 20th of November, 1770. The procedure was duly witnessed with the proper formalities; and for the greater confirmation of so serious an act some of the natives present signed or attested the official document by marking upon it certain characters in their own form of script[1]. Then we cheered the king seven times, next to which followed a triple volley of musketry from the whole party, and, lastly, our ships saluted with 21 guns. The function being concluded, and all hands mustered up in marching order, we returned to the same place where we disembarked, and where our launches and boats were in attendance. In these we were conveyed on board, and all

[1] See the Plate at p. 48.

6: Anonymous T-5 (1770)1908
OY2 Easter Islanders OY2

the officers in succession thereupon offered their felicitations and congratulations to the Commodore, who then fixed the following day for their departure from the bay, in consequence of his mission there being now happily concluded.

Wednesday, 21st. At 11 o'clock in the forenoon (being all ready to get under way and expecting the Commodore to make the signal) our cable parted close to the ring of the anchor; and the wind being fresh we made sail in order to avoid being driven on to the rocks or risking another anchor. As soon as we had gained an offing we hove to to await the Commodore, who joined company with us at two o'clock in the afternoon, and we set our course W. ¼ N.W., coasting along the north side of the island and proceeding in search of the other one shown on the Dutch chart of Wam Keullena[1] in the same latitude. At four o'clock the western point of the island of San Carlos bore S., distant about 4 leagues, and I took my departure from that position, fixing the latitude as 27° 16′, and the longitude 266° 50′. At sundown the said point bore S.W. ¼ S.[2] We continued all night with a moderate breeze from E. and E.S.E.: backing at times.

Thursday, 22nd. Lat. by observation 26° 58′, long. 265° 26′. Course 76°, 3rd quadt. Distance 76 ¼ miles. Wind from the 2nd quadt. We continued lying to at night, and during the daytime we kept on under a pressure of canvas.

Friday, 23rd. Lat. by observation 27° 5′, long. 263° 38′. Course 85° 45′, 3rd quadt. Distance 95 miles: wind from the 2nd quadt., fresh. At noon we reckoned ourselves

[1] Evidently meant for Van Keulen, the well known chartographer, and publisher of *De Nieuwe groote lichtende Zee-fakkel*: Amsterdam, 1728.

[2] Probably an error for S.E. ¼ S.

6: Anonymous T-5 (1770)1908
OY2 Easter Islanders OY2

000 60 leagues to the westward of the island of San Carlos, and the Commodore altered his course to S.S.E. in quest of another new island which they say lies in lat. 38° 30′ and long. 269°. There seemed to be no use in going any farther to the West, as no indication of land was met with, and especially in that we had no orders to proceed on that discovery.

Saturday, 24th. Lat. by observation 29° 03′, long. 264° 05′. Course 11° 45′, 2nd quadt. Distance 122 miles: wind 2nd quadt., fine.

Sunday, 25th. Lat. by observation 30° 41′, long. 264° 34′. Course 15° 15′, 2nd quadt. Distance 88 miles: wind 1st and 2nd quadt.

Monday, 26th. Lat. by reckoning 32° 30′, long 265° 37′. Course 15°, 2nd quadt. Distance 112 miles: wind 4th quadt., with rain squalls.

Tuesday, 27th. Lat. by observation 34° 48′, long. 266° 16′. Course 13° 30′, 2nd quadt. Distance 142 miles: wind *idem.*

Wednesday, 28th. Lat. by observation 36° 10′, long. 266° 49′. Course 18°, 2nd quadt. Distance 88 miles: wind 3rd and 4th quadt.

Thursday, 29th. Lat. by observation 37° 49′, long. 266° 59′. Course 4° 30′, 2nd quadt. Distance 110 miles: wind *idem.* At five in the afternoon of this day we reached the parallel of the supposed island, and the Commodore altered the course, and heading homewards, as the island should bear at that hour East, distant about 45 leagues. We saw many birds this afternoon, like fish-hawks [*quebrantagueses*], petrels [*pardelas*], and others: we still lay to always at night.

Friday, 30th. Lat. by observation 38° 32′, long. 269° 10′. Course 67° 15, 2nd quadt. Distance 111 miles: wind 4th quadt., fresh.

DECEMBER.....Saturday, 1st. Lat. by observation.

6;Anonymous T-5 (1770)1908
OY2 Easter Islanders OY2

38° 24′, long. 271° 16′. Course 86° 30′, 1st quadt. Distance 100 miles: wind 3rd and 4th quadt., squally.

Sunday, 2nd. Lat. by observation 38° 24′, long. 272° 36′. Course 88° 30′, 1st quadt. Distance 73 miles: wind *idem*, with a rough sea.

Monday, 3rd. Lat. by reckoning 38° 4′, long. 274° 13′. Course 76° 30′, 1st quadt. Distance 86 miles: wind and sea the same. Many sea-fowl of all descriptions were seen; and a strong and cold wind, with rain and a very coarse sea, made itself felt.

Tuesday, 4th. Lat. by dead reckoning 38° 13′, long. 275° 34′. Course 83° 15′, 2nd quadt. Distance 80 miles, wind and sea the same.

Wednesday, 5th. Lat. by dead reckoning 38° 29′, long. 278° 6′. Course 83°, 2nd quadt. Distance 126 miles: wind and sea the same.

Thursday, 6th. Lat. by dead reckoning 38° 31′, long. 280° 32′. Course E. Distance 114 miles: wind from 3rd quadt., showers, but not so cold. On this day we found ourselves 190 leagues to the east of the island we were in search of, having run down more than 230 leagues on its parallel while looking for it, without having observed any indication of land.

Friday, 7th. Lat. by observation 38° 35′, long. 282°. Course E. Distance 68½ miles: wind 2nd and 3rd quadt., calm at times.

Saturday, 8th. Lat. by dead reckoning 38° 44′, long. 282° 29′. Course 68° 30′, 2nd quadt. Distance 26 miles: light airs from 1st and 4th quadt.

Sunday, 9th. Lat. by observation 39° 40′, long. 283° 55′. Course 50°, 2nd quad. Distance 89 miles: wind 4th quad., fresh, sea rough. We gave up searching for the island and headed for Chiloe.

Monday, 10th. Lat. by observation 41° 21′, long.

6: Anonymous T-5 (1770)1908
OY2 Easter Islanders OY2

256° 53′. Course 53° 30′, 2nd quad. Distance 170 miles: wind 4th quad., cold; sea *idem*.

Tuesday, 11th. Lat. by observation 41° 36′, long. 290° 32′. Course 84°, 2nd quad. Distance 164 miles: wind and sea the same.

Wednesday, 12th. Lat. by dead reckoning 41° 34′, long. 294° 13′. Course E. 2° N.E. Distance 167 miles: wind and sea *idem*. This day I found myself 120 leagues to the west of Chiloe.

Thursday, 13th. Lat. by observation 41° 38′, long. 298° 14′. Course E. Distance 179½ miles: wind 3rd quadt., the sea less rough. I found myself 61 leagues west Chiloe. It feels pretty cold with the wind from the 3rd quadt.

Friday, 14th. Lat. by dead reckoning 41° 46′, long. 301° 11′. Course 86° 30′, 2nd quadt. Distance 132 miles: wind from the West, gusty and very thick. I found myself 18 leagues W. from the island of Chiloe. At half-past five in the afternoon, when believing myself eight leagues off the land, the horizon cleared a little, and Cocotoia point in the said island came into view, bearing East, about 5 leagues distant. As it was late in the day and the horizon was much obscured we did not proceed for the channel, but continued standing off and on all night, with a moderate breeze from the 3rd and 4th quadt.

Saturday, 15th. We came to an anchor in the new harbour of San Carlos in the island of Chiloe, after twenty-four days of navigation from the island of San Carlos we discovered, and sixty-seven from our departure from the Callao.

---

[1] He had sailed 179½ miles (=60 leagues) since the previous noon: this figure is obviously an error in the MS.—for 60, therefore.

6: Anonymous T-5 (1770)1908
OY2 Easter Islanders OY2

A DICTIONARY of some Words and Terms illustrative of the language of the inhabitants of the Island of *San Carlos* (*alias* David) which I have been able to search out, making use of signs, demonstrations, and figures shewn by drawings: as follows:— 192

Hair	Coojo
Eyebrows ...	Geijio
Eyes	Comata
Eyelashes ...	Coveque-ve-que
Nostrils ...	Coiju
Mouth ...	Coaja
Tongue ...	Corero
Teeth	Conijo
Lips	Conuto
Cheeks ...	Cococumo
Chin	Cocoba
Ears	Cotarina
Beard ...	Covere
Neck	Conao
Head	Coray
Buttocks ...	Couju
Muscles ...	Cotumo
Knees ...	Coturi
Leg	Gebae
Calf	Coique
Heel	Coreque
Foot	Magamaga
Man (homo) ...	Cotajata
Young woman	Cotataqui
Old woman ...	Copocopoco
Hen	Comoa
Banana ...	Cocay
Figs	Gecoy
Stone idols ...	Moay
Clothed idols	Copeca
Idols with bodies painted ...	Pare
High chief or lord	Tequeteque
A good or pretty thing ...	Cariba
An ugly or contemptible thing	Macariba
Air	Tetuba
Water ...	Canocona
Land	Genua
Hills	Gemauma
Fire	Cotierpe
Smoke ...	Puina
Sky	Gerani
Sun	Gera
Moon	Magina
Stars	Getu
The ocean ...	Geray
Hut or dwelling	Geveca
Calabash to contain water ...	Geracona
Saliva ...	Coano
Mucus ...	Coupe
Arms	Corima
Hands ...	Comanga-manga
Fingers ...	Comanga-manga
Nails	Comaicucu
Breast ...	Coùma
Nipples ...	Coù
Stomach ...	Coqueo
Belly	Cotino
Back	Cotuorbi
Umbilicus ...	Copito
Groin	Coputo
Genitalia ...	Gemaropao
Canoe or ship	Gebaca
Priest of the idol	Maca Maca
To dance ...	Viritejue
Music ...	Toro-Toro-Toro
To sit down ...	Canojo
To stand up ...	Comaro
To stroll ...	Gejaere

6: Anonymous T-5 (1770) 1908
OY2 Easter Islanders OY2

To be silent ...	Comou	To drink ...	Cauno
To dismiss a person	Catajuti	Yes	E
To swim ...	Gecau	No	Ma
To kiss ...	Cogimi	You	Cocoa
To embrace ...	Cajai	One	Coyana
To sleep ...	Geuru	Two	Corena
To awaken ...	Geura	Three ...	Cogojui
To look at, listen	Arà	Four	Quiroqui
To wish for anything ...	Conoro	Five	Majana
Not to desire it	Maconoro	Six	Feuto
To eat ...	Cacay	Seven ...	Fegea
To quarrel or fight	Gecacai	Eight	Moroqui
		Nine	Vijoviri
		Ten	Queromata

On the 18th the Commodore held a council of all the officers and the pilots of both ships, at which also the Governor of this island was present with his serjeant-major. Questions relating to our expedition were dealt with, and it was by common accord decided to hold over the examination of the island of *La Madre de Dios*, in view of the obvious dangers we should be running without having any coastal pilot acquainted with the locality, and to warn the higher Government that in the opinion of the council the vessels should not be risked without a clear conception as to the outcome of the undertaking.

We were also all agreed that we should await the return of two piraguas which had sailed from this port with orders to make an examination of the island of Inchin, its harbour or roadstead, and the Inlet of Diego Gallego. Should they not arrive within the time they might be expected to, three others were to be fitted out with the same object, manned by crews from among the people of these vessels and under the command of some of our officers, with a few Chilote paddlers, and native pilots of the Chonos Archipelago and Guaytecas. Meanwhile we would occupy ourselves in replenishing our stock of wood and water.

The rains in this country are incessant, and the wind

6: Anonymous T-5 (1770)1908
OY2 Easter Islanders OY2

always hung at S.W. to N.W. until the 26th, when we got the first Southerly wind; and it was the only day on which the rain gave us a truce—but on the 27th it settled down again to rain, and continued to do so until the end of the month, and of the year.

On the 28th we received news that the piraguas which had been despatched to Inchin were on their return journey; and on the 29th the officer in charge of them arrived by land, with the information that he had thoroughly examined the harbour of that name, and the Inlet of Diego Gallego, with all their ins and outs, without having met with any settlement, nor any vestige of enemies in those parts. He felt assured that it would not be possible for any nation to colonise the country in question, and that no person could seek out its coast unless he were a lunatic or a castaway. With this announcement the projected expedition was given up; and we set about receiving on board certain logs of timber which were to be conveyed to Callao.

On the 1st and 2nd days of January, 1771, the wind held from S.W. to S. without rain; but on the 3rd it resumed its accustomed direction, and continued. On the 4th nevertheless the downpour took off. We all went on board and got ready to put to sea at the first favourable moment.

On the 5th the rain continued still more copiously, and the wind varied from S.W. to W.

On the 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th it rained incessantly, as well as during the nights, and the wind remained in the 4th quadt

[*The Journal ends here.*]

6: Anonymous OY2 Easter Islanders OY2

175

[For information on the history of the discovery of the island by Europeans consult category 116. Since the entire source is a historical document it has not been marked separately for the recorded history category.]